

Reference No. 6.20

THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1972

Estimates of the civilian labour force are based on the results of the quarterly population survey, which is conducted on a sample basis throughout Australia in February, May, August and November each year. The survey information is obtained by means of personal interviews carried out by specially trained enumerators. A new sample has been introduced. For details, see page 15, paragraph 2. See also paragraph 2 below. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over, except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

Effect of the new sample

2. As explained on page 15 the new sample has been phased in over three surveys, May to November 1972, in order that the effect on the sample estimates can be assessed. The February 1972 estimates were based entirely on the old sample, and the November 1972 estimates will be based entirely on the new sample. Investigation of the changes brought about by the introduction of the new sample will not be completed until after the November survey, but it appears, from information already available, that some discontinuity will result, particularly in the estimates for married women in the labour force. Until a more accurate assessment of possible discontinuity can be made, care should be taken in interpreting changes in the estimates between February and May and between May and August 1972.

Birthplace and year of arrival in Australia

3. Particulars of birthplace and, for migrants, year of arrival in Australia were published for February 1972 in the bulletin "The Labour Force: Country of Birth and Period of Residence in Australia, February 1972" (Reference No. 6.31). Separate particulars for the Australian-born and the overseas-born were included in the May 1972 bulletin "The Labour Force".

4. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they are likely to differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. The exact differences are unknown, but a measure of the likely magnitude is given by the standard error of the estimate. For most purposes it is sufficient to use the approximate relationship between size of estimate and standard error given in Table A on page 16.

5. The smaller the estimate, the higher the relative standard error. Very small estimates are subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. Many of the estimates for unemployed migrants in May 1972 were of this kind. Furthermore, during the progressive introduction of the new sample in 1972 the standard errors of changes between estimates for successive quarters are greater than usual. For these reasons separate particulars for migrants classified by year of arrival were not published in the May 1972 issue of the bulletin.

6. Nevertheless, because of the widespread interest in these estimates a summary of the principal statistics of birthplace and year of arrival is given in Table 2 of this issue for the months of February, May and August 1972. For the reasons given in paragraph 5, any very small estimates shown in Table 2 should be used with caution. It is particularly important that the likely standard errors of such estimates be kept in mind. For example, although the number of persons who had arrived in Australia in the period January 1971 to August 1972 and who were unemployed in August 1972 is given as 7,700, this is not a precise measure; the approximate standard error of this estimate suggests that there are about nineteen chances in twenty that the figure obtained from a complete enumeration would have been within the wide range of 5,700 to 9,700. The corresponding estimated percentage (5.8) is subject to almost the same relative sampling variability as is the estimate of the number unemployed.

7. Additional caution should be employed if small estimates are used to evaluate movements between quarters, because of the effects of the progressive introduction of the new sample indicated above. Finally, it should be noted that the quarterly estimates for persons arriving after the beginning of 1971 refer to successively larger groups of people, with an increasing average duration of residence.

8. Separate particulars for a number of individual countries of birth were published for February 1972. Such particulars are not included in Table 2, because almost all the estimates of unemployed persons for May and August 1972 are below 4,000 and are therefore subject to high sampling variability. See page 15, paragraph 11.

9. In the calculation of the labour force participation rates shown in Tables 2 and 5, persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace or the year of arrival in Australia for such persons.

10. Further information about the introduction of the new sample and the reliability of the estimates is given on page 15.

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EXPLANATORY NOTESClassification of the labour force

The labour force classification used in the surveys conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, held in Geneva in 1954. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week, known as "survey week", which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These survey weeks generally fall within the limits of the calendar month. The principal categories appearing in the tables in this bulletin are defined in the following paragraphs.

2. The labour force comprises all persons who, during survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4.

3. Employed persons comprise all those who, during survey week,

- (a) did any work for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons), or
- (b) worked fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business (or farm), or
- (c) had a job, business or farm, but were not at work because of illness, accident, leave, holiday, production hold-up due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc., or because they were on strike.

A person who had a job but was temporarily laid off by his employer for the whole week without pay is excluded, and is classified in the tables as unemployed. A person who did some work during the week, however, before he either lost his job or was laid off, is classified as employed. A person who held more than one job is counted only once, in the job at which he worked most hours during survey week.

4. Unemployed persons comprise all those who, during survey week, did no work at all, and who either

- (a) did not have a job or business and were actively looking for full-time or part-time work (including those who stated that they would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or believed no work was available, or had not already made definite arrangements to start work in a new job after survey week), or
- (b) were laid off from their jobs without pay for the whole week.

A person who either lost his job or was laid off during survey week, but did some work at his job during survey week, is classified as employed.

5. Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week.

Part-time workers are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

6. Persons not in the labour force are all those who, during survey week, were not in the categories "employed" or "unemployed" as defined. This category therefore includes persons without a job, business or farm who were not actively looking for work, and who, during the survey week, were either keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (e.g. school or university), retired or voluntarily idle, permanently unable to work or inmates of institutions. A person who worked less than fifteen hours without pay in a family business during survey week is also classified as not in the labour force.

7. At the 1971 population census, trainee teachers (enrolled at government teachers colleges and in some cases enrolled also at other institutions) were for the first time classified as not in the labour force, and since then they have also been excluded from labour force estimates derived from the population survey. Exclusion of these students constitutes a break in the series between May and August 1971, the numbers of males and females excluded from the labour force in August 1971 being approximately seven thousand and seventeen thousand respectively.

Estimates for earlier periods

8. The principal items in this bulletin are shown for the six latest quarters. Greater detail is given for the latest quarter only. A wider range of detailed estimates for each quarter from February 1964 to November 1970 has been published in bulletins entitled "The Labour Force", covering the period 1964 to 1968 and single years thereafter (All Reference No. 6.22). Particulars for the year 1971 will be published shortly.

9. The survey periods for February 1971 and February 1972 were later than in the immediately preceding years, and as a consequence the estimate of the proportion of the population 15 years and over who "went to school" is correspondingly higher. No exact estimate of this effect is available; however, it may be conjectured that had the survey period been one week earlier approximately twenty thousand fewer persons would have been classified in the "went to school" category.

10. In the August 1971 issue of this bulletin revised estimates of the numbers of persons employed in agriculture and other industries were published for the period from February 1968 to May 1971.

Seasonally adjusted series

11. Seasonally adjusted estimates for selected labour force characteristics are shown in Table 3. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these statistics are explained in "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1972" (Reference No. 1.10).

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

CIVILIAN POPULATION, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS : SUMMARY, AUGUST 1972 (a)

	Males	Females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)			
Civilian population aged 15 and over	4,578.3	4,648.7	9,227.0
Not in the labour force	809.9	2,816.8	3,626.7
In the labour force	3,768.4	1,831.9	5,600.3
Employed	3,701.0	1,778.0	5,478.9
In full-time jobs	3,578.5	1,305.7	4,884.2
In part-time jobs	122.5	472.3	594.8
Unemployed	67.4	53.9	121.3
Looking for full-time work	63.3	36.8	100.0
Looking for part-time work	4.1	17.2	21.3
RATES (Per cent)			
Labour force participation rate (b)	82.3	39.4	60.7
Unemployment rate (c) -			
Original	1.8	2.9	2.2
Seasonally adjusted	2.1	3.5	2.5

(a) For a note on persons excluded see page 1. Definitions of the categories of the population shown in the table are given on page 3.

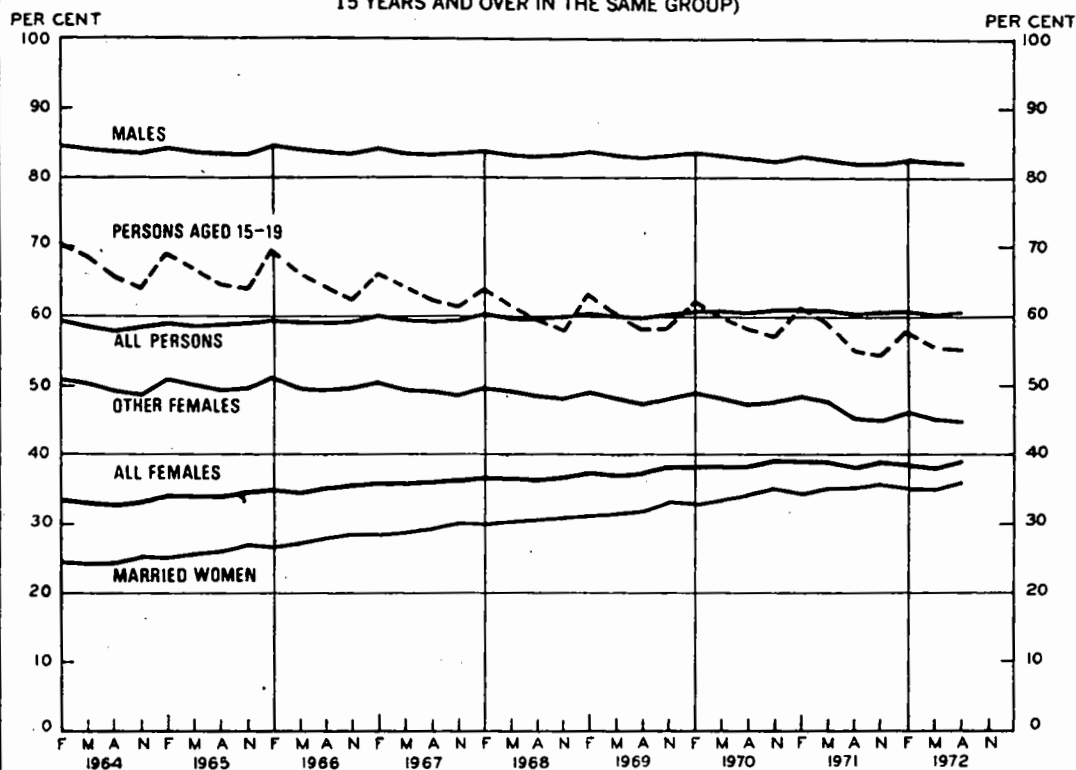
(b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

(c) The unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labour force.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN THE SAME GROUP)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE
IN THE SAME GROUP)

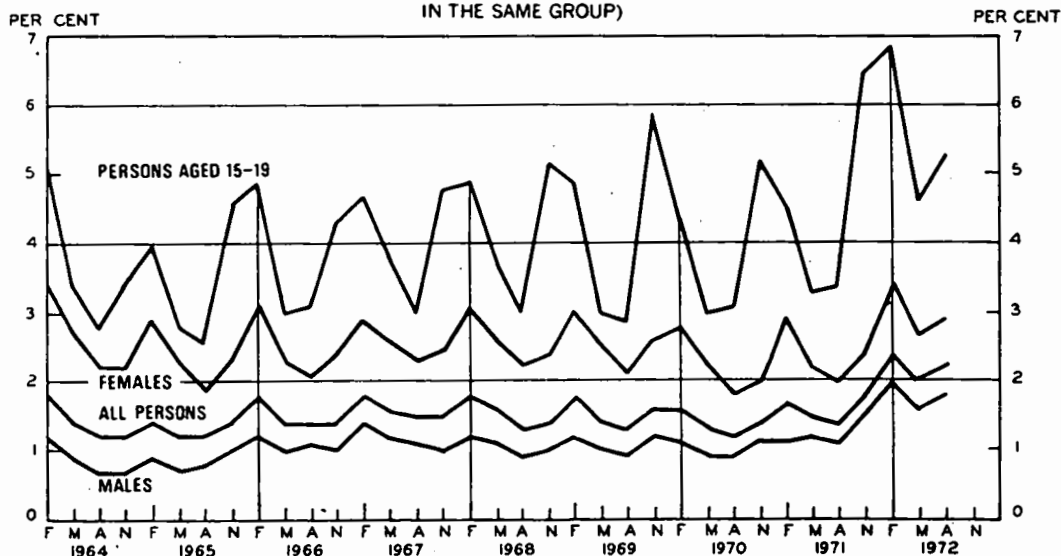


TABLE 1. - CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Month	Employed (b)			Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in the labour force ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
	Agri- culture ('000)	Other industries ('000)	Total ('000)	Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force	Number ('000)	Per cent of popula- tion (c)		
MALES									
1971 May	341.9	3,342.2	3,684.1	44.0	1.2	3,728.1	82.9	767.1	4,495.2
Aug.	333.8	3,336.3	3,670.1	39.3	1.1	3,709.4	82.3	799.6	4,509.0
Nov.	344.1	3,333.4	3,677.5	57.0	1.5	3,734.6	82.3	804.4	4,539.0
1972 Feb.(d)	355.8	3,350.6	3,706.4	74.8	2.0	3,781.3	82.8	784.3	4,565.6
May	345.3	3,371.3	3,716.6	61.0	1.6	3,777.6	82.5	800.1	4,577.7
Aug.	351.4	3,349.6	3,701.0	67.4	1.8	3,768.4	82.3	809.9	4,578.3
MARRIED WOMEN									
1971 May	50.3	990.2	1,040.4	24.1	2.3	1,064.5	35.2	1,962.3	3,026.3
Aug.	54.5	991.2	1,045.7	21.4	2.0	1,067.1	35.3	1,954.3	3,021.4
Nov.	54.6	1,023.7	1,078.2	19.5	1.8	1,097.7	35.9	1,955.9	3,053.6
1972 Feb.(d)	58.7	988.5	1,047.2	33.1	3.1	1,080.3	35.2	1,989.8	3,070.1
May	51.7	1,012.8	1,064.5	27.8	2.5	1,092.3	35.2	2,011.8	3,104.1
Aug.	55.3	1,047.8	1,103.6	27.6	2.4	1,131.2	36.5	1,971.3	3,102.5
OTHER FEMALES (e)									
1971 May	11.6	706.5	718.0	14.6	2.0	732.6	47.9	797.8	1,530.4
Aug.	11.8	677.9	689.7	14.3	2.0	704.0	45.4	847.3	1,551.3
Nov.	12.0	662.3	674.4	23.2	3.3	697.5	44.9	854.3	1,551.9
1972 Feb.(d)	12.6	680.5	693.1	28.0	3.9	721.1	46.1	843.5	1,564.5
May	11.1	670.2	681.2	21.4	3.0	702.6	45.6	839.4	1,542.0
Aug.	12.2	662.2	674.3	26.4	3.8	700.7	45.3	845.5	1,546.2
ALL FEMALES									
1971 May	61.8	1,696.6	1,758.4	38.7	2.2	1,797.1	39.4	2,760.1	4,557.2
Aug.	66.3	1,669.1	1,735.3	35.8	2.0	1,771.1	38.7	2,801.6	4,572.7
Nov.	66.6	1,686.0	1,752.6	42.7	2.4	1,795.2	39.0	2,810.3	4,605.5
1972 Feb.(d)	71.3	1,669.0	1,740.3	61.0	3.4	1,801.3	38.9	2,833.3	4,634.6
May	62.8	1,683.0	1,745.8	49.2	2.7	1,794.9	38.6	2,851.2	4,646.1
Aug.	68.0	1,710.0	1,778.0	53.9	2.9	1,831.9	39.4	2,816.8	4,648.7
PERSONS									
1971 May	403.7	5,038.8	5,442.5	82.7	1.5	5,525.1	61.0	3,527.3	9,052.4
Aug.	400.1	5,005.3	5,405.4	75.1	1.4	5,480.5	60.3	3,601.2	9,081.7
Nov.	410.6	5,019.5	5,430.1	99.7	1.8	5,529.8	60.5	3,614.7	9,144.5
1972 Feb.(d)	427.2	5,019.6	5,446.8	135.8	2.4	5,582.6	60.7	3,617.6	9,200.2
May	408.1	5,054.3	5,462.4	110.2	2.0	5,572.6	60.4	3,651.2	9,223.8
Aug.	419.4	5,059.6	5,478.9	121.3	2.2	5,600.3	60.7	3,626.7	9,227.0

(a) For a note on persons excluded see introductory note, page 1. (b) For definitions see page 3, paragraphs 2 to 4. (c) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group (labour force participation rate). (d) See page 4, paragraph 9. (e) Never married, widowed and divorced.

NOTE. See page 3, paragraph 7, regarding discontinuity of the series. See also page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 2. - CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a) : EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BIRTHPLACE AND YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA

Birthplace and Year of arrival	February 1972					May 1972					August 1972				
	Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed (b)		Total labour force(b)		Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed (b)		Total labour force(b)		Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed (b)		Total labour force(b)	
		Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force	Number ('000)	Per cent of popu- lation(c)		Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force	Number ('000)	Per cent of popu- lation(c)		Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force	Number ('000)	Per cent of popu- lation(c)
MALES															
Born in Australia	2,705.6	46.6	1.7	2,752.2	82.8	2,706.5	38.6	1.4	2,745.1	82.2	2,689.9	43.1	1.6	2,733.0	82.1
Born outside Australia	1,000.8	28.3	2.7	1,029.1	86.7	1,010.1	22.4	22.2	1,032.5	87.2	1,011.1	24.3	2.4	1,035.4	86.5
Arrived before 1955	375.7	6.5	1.7	382.2	79.7	372.9	5.7	1.5	378.6	80.9	361.0	6.5	1.8	367.6	79.1
1955 to 1961	224.3	5.1	2.2	229.4	92.0	221.7	*	*	225.1	91.6	228.8	4.9	2.1	233.6	91.8
1962 to 1966	162.0	4.7	2.8	166.7	90.7	162.2	4.0	2.4	166.1	90.8	160.9	5.1	3.1	166.0	90.2
1967 to 1970	181.7	6.4	3.4	188.1	92.5	188.4	4.8	2.5	193.2	91.6	181.5	4.0	2.2	185.5	91.1
Jan. 1971 to survey date	57.0	5.6	9.0	62.7	88.9	64.9	4.6	6.6	69.5	91.2	78.9	*	*	82.7	92.3
MARRIED WOMEN															
Born in Australia	722.6	18.6	2.5	741.2	32.5	730.9	15.6	2.1	746.5	32.4	765.3	17.4	2.2	782.7	34.0
Born outside Australia	324.6	14.5	4.3	339.1	43.7	333.7	12.2	3.5	345.8	44.0	338.3	10.1	2.9	348.5	44.1
Arrived before 1955	98.8	*	*	100.5	36.3	98.4	*	*	99.9	36.5	97.1	*	*	99.1	36.4
1955 to 1961	83.2	*	*	85.8	46.4	83.9	*	*	86.0	46.8	83.9	*	*	86.2	47.7
1962 to 1966	60.7	*	*	63.5	47.1	60.0	*	*	62.9	46.9	58.1	*	*	59.2	43.7
1967 to 1970	65.7	*	*	69.5	50.9	70.3	*	*	73.8	50.2	71.0	*	*	73.1	51.5
Jan. 1971 to survey date	16.2	*	*	19.8	45.7	21.1	*	*	23.2	48.0	28.3	*	*	30.9	51.6
ALL FEMALES															
Born in Australia	1,302.6	41.2	3.1	1,343.8	38.1	1,301.6	33.0	2.5	1,334.7	37.7	1,320.9	38.3	2.8	1,359.2	38.5
Born outside Australia	437.8	19.8	4.3	457.5	44.2	444.1	16.1	3.5	460.3	44.4	457.1	15.6	3.3	472.7	45.0
Arrived before 1955	130.2	*	*	132.6	34.1	124.9	*	*	126.8	34.0	124.6	*	*	127.4	34.0
1955 to 1961	109.5	4.2	3.7	113.7	47.6	109.6	*	*	112.6	47.9	112.5	*	*	116.2	49.7
1962 to 1966	80.5	*	*	84.1	49.3	81.8	*	*	85.6	49.4	80.8	*	*	83.4	47.5
1967 to 1970	90.3	4.9	5.2	95.3	54.3	93.5	4.3	4.4	97.8	53.0	92.2	*	*	94.9	52.8
Jan. 1971 to survey date	27.2	4.7	14.8	31.9	51.9	34.4	*	*	37.5	54.0	46.9	*	*	50.8	58.2
PERSONS															
Born in Australia	4,008.2	87.8	2.1	4,096.0	59.8	4,008.1	71.6	1.8	4,079.8	59.3	4,010.9	81.3	2.0	4,092.2	59.7
Born outside Australia	1,438.6	48.1	3.2	1,486.6	66.9	1,454.3	38.6	2.6	1,492.8	67.3	1,468.1	40.0	2.7	1,508.1	67.1
Arrived before 1955	505.9	8.9	1.7	514.8	59.3	497.8	7.6	1.5	505.4	60.0	485.6	9.4	1.9	495.0	59.0
1955 to 1961	333.8	9.3	2.7	343.1	70.3	331.2	6.4	1.9	337.6	70.2	341.3	8.5	2.4	349.8	71.6
1962 to 1966	242.5	8.3	3.3	250.8	70.8	243.9	7.8	3.1	251.7	70.7	241.7	7.7	3.1	249.4	69.4
1967 to 1970	272.0	11.3	4.0	283.4	74.8	282.0	9.1	3.1	291.0	73.6	273.7	6.7	2.4	280.4	73.2
Jan. 1971 to survey date	84.3	(d)10.3	(d)10.9	94.6	71.7	99.3	(d)7.7	(d)7.2	107.0	73.5	125.8	(d)7.7	(d)5.8	133.5	75.5

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) For definitions see page 3, paragraphs 2 to 4. (c) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in the same group. See page 1, paragraph 2. (d) See explanation of these figures in paragraphs 6 and 7 of page 1.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11. r - revised.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 3. - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES (a)

Month	Persons in the labour force (b) ('000)							
	Males		Married women		All females		Total	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1971 May	3,728.1	3,726.5	1,064.5	1,069.7	1,797.1	1,799.2	5,525.1	5,526.5
Aug. (c)	3,709.4	3,725.2	1,067.1	1,075.0	1,771.1	1,790.2	5,480.5	5,516.6
Nov.	3,734.6	3,745.6	1,097.7	1,077.6	1,795.2	1,784.1	5,529.8	5,527.7
1972 Feb. (d)	3,781.3	3,755.9	1,080.3	1,087.5	1,801.3	1,791.5	5,582.6	5,547.1
May	3,777.6	3,775.9	1,092.3	1,097.5	1,794.9	1,796.7	5,572.6	5,573.8
Aug.	3,768.4	3,784.5	1,131.2	1,139.9	1,831.9	1,852.2	5,600.3	5,637.8

Month	Participation rate (per cent) (e)				Unemployed persons ('000)					
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Total	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1971 May	82.9	82.9	39.4	39.5	44.0	44.6	38.7	40.0	82.7	84.9
Aug.	82.3	82.5	38.7	39.1	39.3	45.2	35.8	43.0	75.1	88.2
Nov.	82.3	82.5	39.0	38.7	57.0	56.1	42.7	45.4	99.7	102.0
1972 Feb. (d)	82.8	82.4	38.9	38.7	74.8	66.4	61.0	48.3	135.8	113.3
May	82.5	82.5	38.6	38.7	61.0	61.8	49.2	50.9	110.2	113.3
Aug.	82.3	82.5	39.4	39.8	67.4	77.7	53.9	64.9	121.3	142.8

(a) For details of methods used in seasonally adjusting these series see "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1972" (Reference No. 1.10), issued on 6 July 1972. (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see page 3, paragraphs 2 to 4. (c) Excludes trainee teachers, some of whom were classified in the labour force for earlier periods. See page 3, paragraph 7. (d) See page 4, paragraph 9. (e) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.

NOTE. See page 3, paragraph 7, regarding discontinuity of the series. See also page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 4. - CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, AUGUST 1972

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Per cent of population (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	326.2	23.9	307.4	633.6	56.4	46.1	54.8	55.6
20-24	495.5	164.7	326.8	822.3	91.2	47.3	60.6	75.9
25-34	908.9	290.1	363.1	1,272.0	97.7	36.5	41.1	70.1
35-44	752.0	302.2	351.6	1,103.7	97.6	45.5	48.3	73.7
45-54	707.2	253.9	320.5	1,027.7	95.6	41.4	44.3	70.3
55-59	276.6	63.6	95.5	372.1	90.7	26.8	30.3	60.0
60-64	198.2	25.4	44.7	242.9	77.3	14.4	16.8	46.5
65 and over	103.7	7.4	22.3	126.0	22.8	3.4	3.5	11.6
Total	3,768.4	1,131.2	1,831.9	5,600.3	82.3	36.5	39.4	60.7

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see page 3, paragraphs 2 to 4. (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group (labour force participation rate).

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 5. - LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, AUGUST 1972

(Per cent)

Age group (years)	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	56.3	54.1	55.2	58.7	60.8	59.7
20-24	92.4	60.8	76.6	91.4	60.4	76.0
25-34	98.2	38.5	68.6	98.6	48.1	75.0
35-44	98.1	45.7	71.6	98.7	55.6	79.6
45-54	95.9	42.2	68.6	97.1	51.7	76.2
55-59	90.7	29.6	58.5	94.4	34.6	67.9
60-64	77.6	16.0	45.1	79.6	20.6	53.1
65 and over	23.7	3.9	12.0	24.9	3.7	13.9
Total	82.1	38.5	59.7	86.5	45.0	67.1

(a) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in the same group. See page 1, paragraph 9.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 6. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY HOURS WORKED (b), AUGUST 1972

	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)					
Hours worked -					
0(d)	199.6	81.0	35.3	116.3	315.9
1-15	65.8	148.8	44.6	193.4	259.3
16-29	98.5	175.9	36.8	212.6	311.1
30-34	104.4	69.3	29.8	99.1	203.5
35-39	329.4	139.6	138.5	278.1	607.5
40	1,573.7	377.0	312.2	689.2	2,262.9
41-44	206.2	25.0	25.1	50.0	256.2
45-48	331.7	26.6	22.2	48.8	380.5
49 and over	791.7	60.5	29.9	90.4	882.1
Total	3,701.0	1,103.6	674.3	1,778.0	5,478.9
Full-time workers (e)	3,578.5	715.4	590.3	1,305.7	4,884.2
Part-time workers (e)	122.5	388.3	84.0	472.3	594.8
AVERAGE HOURS WORKED (f)					
All industries -					
All employed persons	41.5	30.5	34.9	32.1	38.5
Full-time workers (e)	42.4	38.3	38.1	38.1	41.2
Part-time workers (e)	15.5	16.1	14.5	15.8	15.7
Manufacturing	40.4	34.0	37.6	35.0	39.0

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 3. (b) Actual hours worked during survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, accidents and industrial disputes; and work stoppages due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Excludes persons laid off without pay for the whole of survey week; these persons are classified as unemployed. (e) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 5. (f) Persons with jobs who did not work during survey week have been included in the calculation of average hours worked. When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in a slight lowering of the average hours figures.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 7. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS (b), BY REASON, AUGUST 1972
('000)

Reason for working less than 35 hours	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
USUALLY WORK 35 HOURS OR MORE					
Leave or holiday	192.6	51.4	38.6	90.0	282.5
Own illness or injury	111.0	28.1	19.2	47.2	158.2
Bad weather, breakdown, etc.	11.6	*	*	*	12.0
Began or lost job in survey week	7.4	*	*	7.0	14.5
On short time	6.6	*	*	*	8.0
Other reasons	16.8	*	*	*	19.7
Total	345.9	86.6	62.5	149.1	495.0
USUALLY WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS					
Preferred part-time work	107.1	367.8	76.9	444.7	551.8
Lack of work	10.0	13.2	4.4	17.7	27.7
Other reasons	5.3	7.2	*	9.9	15.3
Total	122.5	388.3	84.0	472.3	594.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 3. (b) See note (b) to Table 6.

(c) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 8. - EMPLOYED MARRIED WOMEN (a), BY INDUSTRY AND HOURS WORKED (b), AUGUST 1972
('000)

Industry group	Part-time workers (c)				Full-time workers (c)	Total
	Hours worked (b)			Total		
	Under 16	16-29	30-34			
Agriculture	13.2	11.0	*	27.7	28.2	55.8
Manufacturing	20.2	18.2	10.4	48.8	206.5	255.4
Commerce	42.2	43.6	9.0	94.8	166.7	261.5
Community and business services (d)	47.2	41.9	19.8	109.0	156.0	265.0
Amusement, hotels, personal service	39.7	26.1	6.6	72.4	70.2	142.6
Other industries	18.0	14.5	*	35.6	87.8	123.4
Total	180.6	155.4	52.3	388.3	715.4	1,103.6

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 3. (b) See note (b) to Table 6.

(c) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 5. (d) Comprises law, order and public safety; religion and social welfare; health, hospitals, etc.; education; and other community and business services (including professional).

* Less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 9. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, AUGUST 1972

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)				Per cent of labour force (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
Total	67.4	27.6	53.9	121.3	1.8	2.4	2.9	2.2
15-19	17.5	*	16.4	33.9	5.4	*	5.3	5.3
20 and over	49.9	26.3	37.6	87.5	1.4	2.4	2.5	1.8
20-24	12.4	4.7	10.4	22.8	2.5	2.9	3.2	2.8
25-34	12.4	9.9	11.6	24.0	1.4	3.4	3.2	1.9
35-44	9.1	7.4	8.2	17.4	1.2	2.5	2.3	1.6
45-54	8.5	*	5.0	13.5	1.2	*	1.5	1.3
55 and over	7.4	*	*	9.8	1.3	*	*	1.3

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 4. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 10. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, AUGUST 1972

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)			Per cent of labour force (b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
BORN IN AUSTRALIA						
Total	43.0	38.3	81.3	1.6	2.8	2.0
15-19	14.9	13.8	28.6	5.3	5.3	5.3
20 and over	28.2	24.6	52.7	1.1	2.2	1.5
20-24	9.0	8.4	17.3	2.3	3.2	2.7
25-34	6.1	7.3	13.4	1.0	3.0	1.5
35 and over	13.1	8.9	22.0	0.9	1.5	1.1
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA						
Total	24.3	15.6	40.0	2.4	3.3	2.7
15-19	*	*	5.2	*	*	5.6
20 and over	21.7	13.0	34.7	2.2	3.1	2.5
20-24	*	*	5.5	*	*	3.2
25-34	6.3	4.4	10.6	2.2	3.7	2.7
35 and over	12.0	6.6	18.6	2.0	2.7	2.2

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 4. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 11. - UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS

(Per cent)

Month	State capital cities (b)			Other areas		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1971 May	1.2	1.8	1.4	1.2	2.9	1.7
August	1.1	1.8	1.3	1.0	2.6	1.4
November	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.6	3.3	2.1
1972 February	2.3	3.2	2.6	1.4	3.9	2.1
May	1.8	2.4	2.0	1.4	3.4	1.9
August	1.9	2.7	2.2	1.6	3.5	2.2

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (b) The figures relate to persons residing within the boundaries of the relevant Statistical Divisions. Explanatory notes on the delimitation of urban boundaries and maps showing the boundaries of the capital city Statistical Divisions were published in "Census of the Commonwealth of Australia, 30 June 1966 - Field Count Statement No. 4".

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 12. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK AND LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK, AUGUST 1972

	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
Looking for full-time work (c)					
Number ('000)	63.3	14.3	22.5	36.8	100.0
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	1.7	2.0	3.7	2.7	2.0
Looking for part-time work (e)					
Number ('000)	4.1	13.3	*	17.2	21.3
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	3.2	3.3	*	3.5	3.5

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 4. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

(c) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (d) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in each group. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 13. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), AUGUST 1972

	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
Number unemployed ('000) -				
Under 2 weeks	9.8	4.6	10.0	19.8
2 weeks and under 4 weeks	18.5	7.2	11.9	30.3
4 " " " 8 weeks	12.8	5.1	10.2	22.9
8 " " " 13 weeks	13.4	5.1	10.4	23.8
13 weeks and over	12.9	5.6	11.5	24.4
Total	67.4	27.6	53.9	121.3
Average duration of unemployment (c)(weeks) -				
Aged 15-19 years	6.7	*	8.5	7.6
Aged 20 years and over	10.5	9.3	10.4	10.5
All unemployed persons	9.5	9.2	9.8	9.7

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 4. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of survey week. (c) Periods of unemployment are recorded only in complete weeks; the averages shown are affected accordingly.

* Based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 14. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), BY AGE, ETC., AUGUST 1972 ('000)

Duration of unemployment (b) (weeks)	Age (years)		Married	Not married(c)	Looking for -		Total
	15-19	20 and over			Full-time work (d)	Part-time work (e)	
MALES							
Under 2	*	6.5	4.0	5.6	3.2	*	9.8
2 and under 4	6.0	12.5	6.8	11.7	17.5	*	18.5
4 and under 13	6.4	19.8	11.0	15.1	25.5	*	26.2
13 and over	*	11.1	6.2	6.7	12.0	*	12.9
Total	17.5	49.9	28.0	39.4	63.3	4.1	67.4
FEMALES							
Under 2	*	6.7	4.6	5.4	5.6	4.4	10.0
2 and under 4	*	8.3	7.2	4.6	7.6	4.3	11.9
4 and under 13	6.3	14.3	10.2	10.4	15.0	5.6	20.6
13 and over	*	8.3	5.6	5.9	8.6	*	11.5
Total	16.4	37.6	27.6	26.4	36.8	17.2	53.9
PERSONS							
Under 2	6.7	13.2	8.6	11.2	13.8	6.0	19.8
2 and under 4	9.5	20.8	14.0	16.3	25.1	5.3	30.3
4 and under 13	12.7	34.1	21.2	25.6	40.5	6.2	46.8
13 and over	5.0	19.4	11.8	12.6	20.6	*	24.4
Total	33.9	87.5	55.6	65.7	100.0	21.3	121.3

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 4. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of survey week. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs.

* Less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 15. - UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, AUGUST 1972

(Per cent)

Industry group (b)	Unemployment rate	Occupation group (c)	Unemployment rate
Agriculture	1.3	Professional and technical workers	1.1
Manufacturing	2.2	Clerical workers	1.4
Building and construction	2.5	Sales workers	2.5
Transport and storage	1.5	Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	1.4
Commerce	2.2	Transport and communication workers	1.5
Community and business services (d)	1.5	Craftsmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (e)	2.5
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	3.3	Service, sport and recreation workers	3.2
Other industries	1.3	Other occupations	*
Total	2.2	Total	2.2

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (b) Based on industry of last job. (c) Based on occupation of last job. (d) See note (d) to Table 8. (e) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers.

*Based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 16. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) : INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, AUGUST 1972

('000)

Industry group (b)	Number unemployed	Occupation group (c)	Number unemployed
Agriculture	5.7	Professional and technical workers	6.8
Manufacturing	31.0	Clerical workers	12.7
Under 2 weeks	4.3	Under 4 weeks	6.8
2 and under 4 weeks	7.3	Sales workers	12.5
4 and under 8 weeks	5.9	Under 4 weeks	5.2
8 and under 13 weeks	6.3	Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	6.7
Building and construction	12.2	Transport and communication workers	4.9
Under 4 weeks	5.5	Craftsmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (e)	48.6
Transport and storage	4.3	Under 2 weeks	6.2
Commerce	22.4	2 and under 4 weeks	12.0
Under 4 weeks	9.1	4 and under 8 weeks	9.7
4 and under 8 weeks	4.3	8 and under 13 weeks	10.6
8 and under 13 weeks	4.5	Service, sport and recreation workers	15.8
Community and business services (d)	11.1	Under 4 weeks	5.9
Under 4 weeks	5.0	Other occupations	*
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	12.8	No previous work experience	12.0
Other industries	9.9	Under 4 weeks	6.2
No previous work experience	12.0		
Under 4 weeks	6.2		
Total	121.3	Total	121.3

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 4. (b) See note (b) to Table 15.

(c) See note (c) to Table 15. (d) See note (d) to Table 8. (e) See note (e) to Table 15.

* Less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TABLE 17. - PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, BY MAJOR ACTIVITY (a)
('000)

Month	Kept house	Went to school, etc.	Retired or voluntarily idle	Permanently unable to work	Institutionalised (b)	Total
MALES						
1971 May	13.9	246.5	415.1	36.5	55.3	767.3
August	15.7	273.8	421.3	33.7	55.1	799.6
November	16.1	274.0	424.7	35.1	54.5	804.4
1972 February (c)	15.3	228.5	453.1	32.6	54.8	784.3
May	11.6	275.2	424.5	36.2	52.6	800.1
August	9.9	279.5	428.7	38.6	53.2	809.9
MARRIED WOMEN						
1971 May	1,923.8	*	21.6	*	11.6	1,962.3
August	1,912.7	5.6	21.9	*	11.1	1,954.3
November	1,917.3	4.1	19.2	*	12.0	1,955.9
1972 February (c)	1,947.3	5.4	23.0	*	11.1	1,989.8
May	1,969.2	4.4	21.3	*	13.1	2,011.8
August	1,929.6	6.0	21.9	*	11.1	1,971.3
OTHER FEMALES (d)						
1971 May	436.7	193.8	103.4	13.4	50.4	797.8
August	446.0	231.8	98.9	12.7	58.0	847.3
November	452.3	232.3	97.7	13.5	58.5	854.3
1972 February (c)	468.6	194.3	111.4	12.1	57.1	843.5
May	442.4	221.9	103.9	13.2	58.0	839.4
August	429.7	225.8	116.6	15.3	58.1	845.5
ALL FEMALES						
1971 May	2,360.5	197.1	125.0	15.5	62.0	2,760.1
August	2,358.7	237.3	120.8	15.7	69.0	2,801.6
November	2,369.5	236.3	116.9	17.0	70.5	2,810.3
1972 February (c)	2,415.9	199.6	134.4	15.1	68.2	2,833.3
May	2,411.6	226.3	125.1	17.0	71.2	2,851.2
August	2,359.3	231.8	138.5	18.0	69.2	2,816.8
PERSONS						
1971 May	2,374.5	443.5	540.1	52.0	117.3	3,527.4
August	2,374.4	511.1	542.2	49.4	124.1	3,601.2
November	2,385.6	510.3	541.6	52.1	125.0	3,614.7
1972 February (c)	2,431.3	428.1	587.5	47.7	123.0	3,617.6
May	2,423.2	501.5	549.6	53.2	123.7	3,651.2
August	2,369.2	511.3	567.2	56.7	122.4	3,626.7

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see page 3, paragraph 6. (b) Comprises inmates of goals, patients in hospitals, sanatoria, etc., for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling. (c) See page 4, paragraph 9. (d) Never married, widowed and divorced.

*Less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 11.

NOTE. See page 3, paragraph 7, regarding discontinuity of the series. See also page 1, paragraph 2, regarding effect of the new sample.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

Estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Redesign and reselection of the sample

2. The design of the sample on which the labour force survey is based has been thoroughly investigated and a more efficient sampling plan has been devised. Data obtained in the 1971 Census of Population and Housing have been used to reselect the sample in accordance with the improved design.

3. Before the redesign, a one per cent sample throughout Australia was used. About 40,000 private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) as well as a sample of other dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) were included. In the new sample the proportion of the population included varies from State to State, but, in aggregate, about two thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia is included. The new sample will consist of about 27,000 private dwellings as well as a sample of other dwellings.

4. In order to appraise changes in the estimates due to the introduction of the new sample, it has been phased in over three surveys. In the May 1972 survey half of the new sample from metropolitan areas replaced half of the old metropolitan sample. In August 1972 the other half of the new metropolitan sample was introduced and half of the new sample from extra-metropolitan areas replaced half of the old extra-metropolitan sample. In November 1972 the changeover was completed with the introduction of the remaining half of the new extra-metropolitan sample. In August 1972 the total sample consisted of about 29,500 dwellings.

Reliability of the estimates

5. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population, was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

6. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. A table of standard errors for general application is given below (Table A). These figures will not give a precise measure of standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of Table A is as follows: if the estimate obtained from the sample is 100,000 and the standard error is 3 per cent of the estimate, i.e. 3,000, there are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

7. Standard errors of estimates from the new sample have not yet been calculated and therefore the standard errors shown are, strictly speaking, applicable only to results based on the old sample. However, the decrease in sample size and the increase in efficiency resulting from the redesign would have opposite effects on the standard errors and it is considered that the standard errors in Table A will still give a reasonable indication of the sampling variability of the August survey results.

8. The quarter-to-quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. Final estimates of the standard errors of movement have not yet been calculated, but an indication of the magnitude of standard errors of quarter-to-quarter change up to the February 1972 survey is given in Table B, below. The estimates of standard error of quarter-to-quarter change apply only to estimates of change between two consecutive quarters. Changes between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive quarters, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in the table below. Furthermore, changes between February, May and August 1972 will have greater standard errors than indicated in Table B, because of the introduction of the new sample. An example of the use of Table B is as follows: if the estimates for two successive quarters were 100,000 and 110,000, then from Table A it can be seen that the standard errors of these two estimates would be of the order of 3,000, and from Table B that the standard error of the quarter-to-quarter change would be 3,600. That is, there are about two chances in three that the true quarter-to-quarter change lies between 6,400 and 13,600 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it lies between 2,800 and 17,200.

TABLE A

STANDARD ERRORS OF QUARTERLY ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	Approximate standard error of estimates	
	Persons	Per cent of estimate
4,000	750	19
5,000	850	17
10,000	1,100	11
20,000	1,400	7
50,000	2,000	4
100,000	3,000	3
200,000	4,000	2
500,000	5,000	1
1,000,000	5,500	0.6
2,000,000	8,000	0.4

TABLE B

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF
QUARTER-TO-QUARTER CHANGE
(Persons)

Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change
1,000	1,300
2,000	2,500
3,000	3,600
4,000	4,300
5,000	4,700
6,000	5,000
7,000	5,200
8,000	5,300

9. The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.

10. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the percent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from Table A.

11. As the standard errors in Table A show, the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates would thus be subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates less than 4,000 have not been shown. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

12. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2347 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.